

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 05281 211916Z
ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-12 AGRE-00 AID-05
CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 SOE-02 DOE-15 FMC-01 TRSE-00
H-01 INR-10 INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 OIC-02 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10 /185 W
-----074232 220304Z /65

R 211818Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1470
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 5281

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS IT
SUBJECT: SEVENTH SESSION OF THIRD LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 70035

1. ON MARCH 21 WE GAVE MFA OFFICE DEALING WITH LAW OF THE SEA
COPY OF AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON'S PRESS CONFERENCE AND HAD BRIEF
DISCUSSION OF OUTLOOK FOR LOS SEVENTH SESSION. ITALIANS WERE
APPRECIATIVE OF INFORMATION ON US VIEWS AND EXPRESSED DESIRE TO
STAY IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH US ON LOS ISSUES. THEY ARE CAUTIOUS
IN PREDICTING OUTCOME OF SESSION AND HAVE LOST MUCH OF OPTIMISM
THEY HAD A YEAR AGO. ITALIANS NOW THINK THAT THEIR ROLE, AND
THAT OF OTHER EC COUNTRIES, MUST BE ESSENTIALLY PASSIVE AND
THAT IT IS UP TO THE G-77 TO REACT TO SUBSTANTIAL CONCESSIONS
ALREADY MADE BY INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES. THEY BELIEVE THAT EC
EFFORTS IN SOME AREAS MIGHT EVEN BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE: ANY
MOVE ON THEIR PART, FOR EXAMPLE, TO SEEK SUPPORT FOR EXTENSION
OF AMERASINGHE AS CONFERENCE PRESIDENT WOULD PROBABLY HURT HIS
CHANCES OF RETAINING OFFICE MORE THAN HELP THEM,
ACCORDING TO MFA.
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2. MFA WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN PROSPECTS FOR US
LEGISLATION ON SEABEDS (GOI IS NOT CURRENTLY PLANNING SIMILAR
LEGISLATION). MEANWHILE, STUDY GROUP OF ITALIAN GOVERNMENT
AND INDUSTRY ENTITIES LIKELY TO BE INVOLVED IN SEABED MINING
IS CONTINUING TO CONSIDER POSSIBILITIES OF ASSOCIATION WITH
MULTINATIONAL CONSORTIUM: ENI, WHICH HAS ABSORBED MINING

ENTERPRISES OF DEFUNCT SRAM, IS MAJOR INDUSTRIAL ENTITY
INVOLVED.GARDNER

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: LAW OF THE SEA, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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Review Release Event: n/a
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